

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-44. (Canceled)

45. (New) A method for using color to indicate a relationship between a controlling device and a plurality of appliances, comprising:

in response to an activation of a device mode key of the controlling device, causing a processor of the controlling device to select from a plurality of colors a first color representative of a first one of the plurality of appliances to illuminate a first group of function keys comprised of a plurality of function keys wherein each of the plurality of functions keys in the first group of function keys is activatable to cause a transmission of a command to the first one of the plurality of appliances to control a different operation of the first one of the plurality of appliance and to select from the plurality of colors a second color representative of a second one of the plurality of appliances to illuminate a second group of function keys comprised of a plurality of function keys wherein each of the plurality of functions keys in the second group of function keys is activatable to cause a transmission of a command to the second one of the plurality of appliances to control a different operation of the second one of the plurality of appliance.

46. (New) The method as recited in claim 45, wherein the first group of function keys comprises at least one of a volume control function key group, a channel control function key group, and a transport control function key group.

47. (New) The method as recited in claim 45, wherein the first group of function keys and the second group of functions keys comprise different ones of a volume control function key group, a channel control function key group, and a transport control function key group.

48. (New) The method as recited in claim 45, wherein the first group of function keys are illuminated in the first color via at least one LED.

49. (New) The method as recited in claim 45, wherein the first color and the second color are user selectable via interaction with the controlling device after manufacture of the controlling device.

50. (New) The method as recited in claim 45, wherein the first color and the second color are predefined during manufacture of the controlling device.

51. (New) The method as recited in claim 45, wherein a first device mode key of the controlling device used to place the controlling device into a mode for issuing commands primarily to the first one of the plurality of appliances is caused to be illuminated in the first color.

52. (New) The method as recited in claim 51, wherein a second device mode key of the controlling device used to place the controlling device into a mode for issuing commands primarily to the second one of the plurality of appliances is caused to be illuminated in the second color.

53. (New) A method for using cues to indicate a plurality of appliances, comprising:

associating with each of the plurality of appliances a unique cue;
presenting on a television display the unique cue associated with each of the plurality of appliances while allowing a user to setup a recipient appliance to receive input from a selected one or more of the plurality of appliances;
causing data representative of the setup of the recipient appliance to be transmitted from the recipient appliance to the controlling device; and
using the received data representative of the setup of the recipient appliance at the controlling device to cause the unique cue of each of the selected one or more of the plurality of appliances to be selectively associated with a function key of the controlling device to thereby represent the one of the plurality of appliances as an intended target for a transmission to be issued from the controlling device in response to activation of the function key.

54. (New) The method as recited in claim 53, wherein the controlling device comprises a device mode key activatable to place the controlling device into a mode for primarily commanding operating functions of a one of the selected one of the plurality of appliances and the method comprises associating with the device mode key the cue for the selected one of the plurality of appliances.

55. (New) The method as recited in claim 53, wherein the cue is selected from a group consisting of at least one of sounds, shapes, colors, patterns, brightnesses, icons, and text tags.